DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 396 837 PS 024 339

AUTHOR Lipman, Matthew
TITLE Natasha: Vygotskian Dialogues.
REPORT NO ISBN-0-8077-3516-7
PUB DATE 96
NOTE 159p.
AVAILABLE FROM Teachers College Press, P.O. Box 20, Williston, VT 05495-0020 (paperback: ISBN-0-8077-3516-7, $19.95; hardcover: ISBN-0-8077-3517-5, $44).
PUB TYPE Books (010) -- Creative Works (Literature,Drama,Fine Arts) (030) -- Viewpoints (Opinion/Position Papers, Essays, etc.) (120)

EDRS PRICE Document Not Available from EDRS.
DESCRIPTORS Child Development; *Constructivism (Learning); Curriculum; *Dialogs (Literary); *Educational Philosophy; Educational Principles; *Educational Theories; Interviews
IDENTIFIERS *Davydov (Vasily V); Dewey (John); Mead (Margaret); Philosophy for Children (Lipman); Russian Education; *Vygotsky (Lev S)

ABSTRACT

This creative philosophical essay demonstrates Vygotsky's principles in the form of an extended fictional thought-experiment, in which the author is "interviewed" by a fictional Ukrainian reporter, Natasha. The introduction, "Squaring Russian Theory with American Practice," gives some background in Vygotsky's and Davydov's theories, including Vygotsky's research on the connection between teaching and mental development, along with some background on the Philosophy for Children curriculum. A "Chronology of Philosophy for Children" gives a timeline, ranging from 1969 to 1995, indicating dates of publication of components of the Philosophy for Children curriculum and other important dates. The remainder of the book is comprised of ten fictional "visits" between Natasha and the author, revealing Vygotskian constructivist teaching methods and broad themes of philosophy, learning theory, and psychology. An afterword, "A Comparison between the Philosophy for Children Approach and the Cultural-Historical and Activity Approaches: Psychological and Educational Foundations" (Arkady Margolis) is then presented. Contains 53 references. (BGC)

****
* Reproductions supplied by EDRS are the best that can be made *
* from the original document. *
****